

BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

Union Institute & University

RECOMMENDATION

Union Institute & University meets the Chancellor's standards and the staff recommend continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2017, to coincide with the institution's next accreditation reaffirmation review with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw authorization or require additional review if the institution fails to continue to meet the Chancellor's standards for authorization or is sanctioned by the Higher Learning Commission. The university is required to submit a copy of its January 2012 HLC Progress Report and January 2012 HLC Monitoring Report to the Chancellor's staff.

Profile: Union Institute & University was originally established in 1964 as The Union for Research and Experimentation in Higher Education—a not-for-profit, grant-funded consortium of member institutions. Over time, the consortium moved towards becoming an independent, not-for-profit university and in 1982 the grant-funded consortium was converted to a tuition-funded university. Today, the university has academic centers in Ohio (Cincinnati), Florida, California and Vermont, serving approximately 2500 students in its undergraduate and graduate programs.

Accreditation/Authorization: Union Institute & University is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Chancellor has authorized the institution since November 1971.

During its last reaffirmation review, the Higher Learning Commission requested that the university complete a progress report on assessment (due 01/31/2012) and a monitoring report on strategic planning with attention to enrollment, fund balances and deficits (also due 01/31/2012).

Program Offerings: The university is authorized to offer the following degrees in Ohio: Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Science; Doctor of Psychology (PsyD); Doctor of Education (EdD); and Doctor of Philosophy in Interdisciplinary Studies (PhD).

Institutional Changes: Since its last reauthorization review, the university has revised its undergraduate degrees so that the Bachelor of Arts program offers a single major in Liberal Studies designed to focus on critical thinking, problem solving, ethics and social consequences and responsible citizenship. The Bachelor of Science program offers majors designed to prepare learners for a particular profession. As a result of internal and external reviews, the university has revised its interdisciplinary doctoral program to include three distinct doctoral programs: a PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies, limited to three concentration areas; a PsyD; and an EdD. The university has also expanded its online and hybrid delivery options.

Recommendation to the Chancellor: Union Institute & University meets the Chancellor's standards and the staff recommend continued institutional authorization through December 31, 2017, to coincide with the institution's next accreditation reaffirmation review with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Chancellor may, in his judgment, withdraw

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End of Comment Period: September 6, 2010
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

APPROVED	
	9/03/10
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	Date

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